

ago on charges sworn out by Mrs. Ange Stanke, Novato matron. Mrs. Stanke said she consulted him in his alleged self-advertised capacity of birth control expert and received a series of treatments. . . . (San Francisco *Examiner*, January 11, 1927.) (Previous entries "News Items," January, February, and May, 1926.)

Recent reports relate that Dr. A. J. Scott, Jr., of Los Angeles was reappointed a member of the State Board of Health, vice self, term expired.

Dr. William Shore, Ventura physician, was arrested for the second time in twenty-four hours when police raided his garage at 316 Oak Street today and seized ten gallons of alcohol. Shore pleaded guilty to a charge of violating the Wright Act yesterday after the sheriff's deputy raided his place and seized a quantity of booze. He paid a \$500 fine when he appeared before Justice of the Peace Malvern Dimmick. . . .—Ventura *Star*, January 6, 1927.

According to the Hanford *Journal* of December 8, 1926, A. Silva, charged with violation of the Medical Practice Act, was held to answer in the Superior Court.

Dr. Charles R. Spencer was arraigned today in the court of Judge Edwin Hahn on the charge of performing an illegal operation on Eva McArthur, 24-year-old typist, last September. In the course of her testimony at the recent preliminary hearing of the case, the young woman . . . declared that effects of the alleged operation left her partially and probably permanently paralyzed (Los Angeles *Herald*, December 21, 1926). There is no record that Charles R. Spencer is licensed to practice in this state, and we understand he is the same individual as Culver R. Spencer, mentioned in "News Items" of June, 1926.

"E. O. Tilburne, 332 East Colorado Street, Pasadena, agent for Wilshire's I-on-a-co, a health device, was bound over to the Superior Court on a charge of treating the sick without a license. . . . Tilburne called himself Doctor Tilburne unlawfully. . . . An electric belt, pamphlets, and newspaper advertising in which 'Dr. E. O. Tilburne' was named, were exhibited by the prosecution."

**Pollen Toxemia in Children**—The symptoms of this condition, according to I. S. Kahn, San Antonio, Texas (*Journal A. M. A.*), are: Frequent almost non-intermittent so-called colds dating from early infancy, which actually represent the mild type of hay fever so frequently seen in asthmatic children. Typical severe seasonal hay fever is unusual. Frequent attacks of bronchitis antedate the initial asthmatic attack. Infantile eczema is a common story. The family history almost invariably shows hay fever or asthma. The noses of these children are frequently in a state of prolonged obstruction with almost constant mouth breathing, resembling extensive adenoid growth. Removal of adenoids and tonsils in all these cases had not given relief. Nose picking and rubbing is a common story. The physical examination of these children shows deficient growth and weight, and backward mentality. The complexion is sallow or of a saffron tinge; on the whole, the condition decidedly resembles hereditary syphilis or hookworm infection. The nasal mucosa is typical of vasomotor rhinitis. The chest is barrel shaped, with marked emphysema and heavy generalized rale formation. Cardiac enlargement and murmurs are absent. The abdominal examination is negative. Eosinophilia is uncertain, while a lymphocytic increase is not unusual. The most remarkable result of this toxemia is psychic in character. The mentality is deficient, the condition resembling that of morons or idiots in severe cases. Languidness and listlessness are the rule, alternating with spells of intense temper and fury. These children are almost invariably extremely cross and irritable, resisting all handling, and crying on the slightest provocation. The appetite is poor and capricious, and nocturnal enuresis is common. Within a few weeks, or at times even days, following the institution of proper measures to control the vasomotor rhinitis by desensitization or pollen precautions, the entire picture changes. With improvements, but long before complete elimination of the hay fever and asthma, the complexion clears, appetite returns, and the general physical condition rapidly approaches that of the normal child of that age.

## READERS' FORUM

The following letter from C. B. Pinkham, secretary Board of Medical Examiners, to the "Editor of The Stirring Rod" is self-explanatory and contains information of value to physicians:

San Francisco, California.

January 18, 1927.

Editor of The Stirring Rod,  
300 Broadway,  
San Francisco, California,

Attention  
Mr. Sidney J. Wolfe

Dear Sir: The January 1927 issue of The Stirring Rod, on page 10, printed an article by G. D. Johnson, a Stockton druggist, assailing the doctors of California and particularly the Medical Practice Act, basing his complaint on a statement that "about a year ago a pharmacist was arrested for practicing medicine without a license for selling over the counter a box of female pills advertised and sold throughout the United States. A jury acquitted him. . . ."

Knowing the news item to be a misstatement of fact and most unjust in its criticism of the doctors, as well as the law, we made a search for the motive that inspired its venom. The violator file of the Board of Medical Examiners disclosed the G. D. Johnson, alleged as connected with the Kin-Tai-Do Pharmacy, came to our attention in 1923 through a card reading "Dr. G. D. Johnson, 245 South Eldorado Street, Stockton." The records disclosed that there was no one by that name licensed in the state of California, and an investigation produced sufficient evidence to warrant filing a charge of violation of the Medical Practice Act. The records show G. D. Johnson pleaded guilty in the Superior Court, Stockton, California, of the offense charged and on December 3, 1923, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$150.

In March, 1924, complaint again came to us that G. D. Johnson was treating various patients, mostly women, giving hypodermics, etc., but nothing developed until 1925, when it was reported that Johnson was located at 320 East Lafayette Street.

A letter in our files dated Stockton, November 4, 1925, signed Hugo Hagenhofer, 715-F Church Street, Stockton, reads: "My daughter is in hospital here suffering from an infection caused by illegal operation which she accuses Dr. F. H. Johnson. . . . This man is at present employed at the Kin-Tai-Do Drug Store. . . ." Reports of our investigation department indicated that Mrs. S. called on G. D. Johnson at the above named drug store, that he took her to his residence and, according to her story, made a physical examination, told her she was pregnant and that he would relieve her for \$50, that Mrs. S. paid \$20, and it is alleged Mr. Johnson then performed some sort of an operation, which produced the desired result in four days.

A later report relates that on January 4, 1926, G. D. Johnson, on being questioned by District Attorney Dunne of Stockton and Special Agent Henderson of the Board of Medical Examiners, stated that he had sold the husband of Mrs. S. two boxes of pills at \$6 each to relieve her suspected pregnant condition, and that he made a general denial of the story regarding an operation. So much to explain the circumstances which presumably were the basis of his complaint that a pharmacist had been "arrested for practicing medicine without a license for selling over the counter a box of female pills. . . ."

On January 4, 1926, it is reported that a Stockton police officer, armed with a search warrant, took from G. D. Johnson's residence, 320 East Jefferson Street, Stockton, various instruments including a speculum, forceps, vaginal probes, stethoscope, about forty hypodermic needles, etc., and thereafter a charge of violation of Section 274 of the Penal Code, as well as a charge of violation of Section 17 of the Medical Practice Act, was filed.

On April 5, 1926, Mr. Johnson was acquitted on the Penal Code charge. However, on November 8, 1926, Mr.

Johnson was found guilty by a jury in the Superior Court at Stockton of a violation of the Medical Practice Act and thereafter sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and serve five months in the San Joaquin County jail, a notice of appeal having been given when sentence was imposed.

Is it to be wondered that Mr. Johnson urges "something should be done to take away some of the powers of the State Board of Medical Examiners"? Does he make this appeal so he can use the various instruments, hypodermic needles, etc., seized in his home?

Our narrative discloses "the inspiration" that created Mr. Johnson's attack on the medical profession and the Medical Practice Act.

We leave it to your readers to decide whether the druggists of California cry for "protection" against "prosecutions for violation of the Medical Practice Law" in such an instance as has been related.

We know your sense of justice will lead you to give this statement the same publicity as was given the article by Mr. Johnson printed under the headline "Medical Practice Act Wrong."

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

C. B. PINKHAM, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

#### THE NEW YORK MEDICAL WEEK

The Official Organ of the Medical Society of the County of New York

Representing the Activities of the Medical Organizations of Greater New York

New York, December 22, 1926.

*Dear Editor:* The enclosed article or letter was written in an effort to awaken the profession to know the real men who bore the brunt of the struggle to give physiotherapy to us. There is altogether too much tendency just now to keep physicians in the dark about who these pioneers really were, and for this fault the electrical instrument makers and their put out "literature" is to blame.

A. B. HIRSCH, M. D.

*Editor, The New York Medical Week.*

#### WHO GAVE US PHYSIOTHERAPY?

Last September's issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE had a timely editorial on "This Physical Therapy Stuff" that should encourage more general resort to physiotherapy by the profession everywhere. Physiotherapy, by the way, is older, more euphonious and universal than the recently coined cumbersome term, physical therapy. It was gratifying to those active for years in this field to see our leading organ on the Coast give credit in this movement to such pioneers as Massey, Pope and Morse, all honor to each of them. But why overlook that outstanding figure who has borne the brunt of thirty-odd years' valiant struggle for its recognition, Dr. William Benham Snow of New York, whose quarter century editorship of *Physical Therapeutics* was lately celebrated by a largely attended testimonial banquet at Atlantic City, tendered him by his many friends in the profession? Successful practitioner, author, teacher and editor, possibly no man in any country has thoroughly instructed so many physiotherapists or has done more to further the use of physical treatment agents than this energetic veteran in our ranks. His laboratory continues to be a center for physicians from all states and countries when passing through the metropolis, the same smile and hearty handshake as of yore greeting the newcomer.

Why physiotherapy? The huge physiotherapy clinics of our recent war hospitals were, of course, a large factor in the favor with which the American profession now receives it. The hundreds of doctors in these hospitals, then army officers, on returning to civilian practice carried home many of the new methods learned in these clinics, especially when the latter were in charge of men thoroughly trained in this field.

Years before the World War, though, a devoted group of progressives among us, dissatisfied with the meager results of prevailing therapeutics, had been seeking the

aid of various physical forces for relief of the sick and injured. Massage, hydrotherapy, remedial exercise, these had found favor with the fortunate few who had studied under their advocates abroad. Some of the additional physical methods now in use, electrical agents, are American in origin and have supplanted much of the first named on this side of the Atlantic. The work of Massey, Rockwell, Herdaman and others in continuous current (galvanic) methods is now established history.

After Dr. William J. Morton's return from Charcot's clinic in Paris in 1881, his discoveries of the static induced and static wave currents are believed to have given the incentive to d'Arsonval, Oudin, Tesla, Strong, and a few others to develop the now much emphasized high frequency currents and apparatus. Snow was another leader in broadening static modalities. The original suggestions of Leduc and Lewis Jones in ionic electricity, of Mary A. Cleaves and W. B. Snow in radiant light and heat, in the late nineties and after, also became permanent additions to our therapy. Roentgenotherapy, growing at that time, need only be touched upon here. Use of ultra-violet and other spectral rays did not come into vogue until fully a decade later.

One must not overlook probably the most valuable agency for furthering research in this field from its outset, the American Electrotherapeutic Association, more vigorous now than ever, in its thirty-sixth year, with membership in most of our states and in other countries. At its meetings were announced many of the new discoveries and, in checking up their values, there were given the expert opinions of such electrical engineers of international repute as Elihu A. Thomson, Samuel Sheldon, William A. Jenks, Charles L. Clark, and their compeers. These were the authorities who also passed on now established definitions of currents, their nomenclature and terminology.

One must not omit from this roll of honor another still among us, Dr. Frederick F. Strong, long a Bostonian, but in late years enjoying the climatic and other delights of southern California. Fully a quarter century ago this busy practitioner found time to invent probably the earliest workable high frequency apparatus, to publish a textbook on the subject and, by his decided originality and energy, to give this specialty much of its early credit and impetus.

There can be no question but that, with the rapidly growing absorption by the profession of these proved physical methods, the present blatant treatment cults will find their occupation gone and the public's demand for such physical measures supplied by the former. Then the scientific physician will have restored his rightful earning capacity.

This restoration, however, implies ample opportunity to obtain real postgraduate training in these methods. It should prove welcome news, therefore, that the several national physiotherapy societies of physicians are together planning (1) a common curriculum for medical graduates wishing to learn the subject and (2) a training course in hospitals for nonmedical technicians; these are then to be submitted, as suggestive, to the Council on Physical Therapy of the American Medical Association. This has not come any too soon, as it is full time that the present one-week stands of peripatetic lectures on the subject, usually under covert control of apparatus makers, should be replaced by just as thorough-going instruction as in each other limited field of practice.

A. B. H.

**Hypophysectomy and Replacement Therapy**—The basal metabolism of totally hypophysectomized rats was found by G. L. Foster, Berkeley, California, and P. E. Smith, Palo Alto, California (*Journal A. M. A.*), to be about 35 per cent below the average of their series of normal animals. The metabolic rate of these animals may be restored to normal by daily anterior pituitary homotransplants or by daily injections of thyroid extract, but not by daily injections of posterior lobe extract. The specific dynamic action of glycocholic acid is absent in hypophysectomized animals and apparently can be restored only by replacement of both anterior and posterior lobe, but not by either one alone.